THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE STAFF COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2003

The ninth Regular Meeting of the Staff Council for the academic year 2002–2003 was held in room JPL 4.03.08, the Assembly Room on June 26, 2003, at 3:00 p.m. with Terri Reynolds, Chair, presiding.

I. Call to order and taking of attendance


Absent: Jane Armstrong, James Cosgrove, Misty Kelley, Janice Kramer, Michelle Lopez, Cindy Orth, Debbie Riley

Total members present: 19
Total members absent: 7

II. Minutes of the May 22, 2003, meeting were approved

III. Opening Remarks – Terri Reynolds

Ms. Reynolds thanked everyone for a great year and stated her appreciation for all the help she received.

IV. Executive Board Committee Report

The Committee met on May 28, 2003 to discuss an alternate to the UT System Employee Advisory Council. Daniel Kiley and William Hamilton volunteered to serve.

V. Committee Reports

Communications Committee – Craig Evans, Chair

Craig Evans reported the Communications Committee will place a reminder on the Web page and in HYPERLINK "mailto:News@UTSA" News@UTSA regarding the election process.

B. Elections/Membership Committee – Deryl Martin, Chair

Deryl Martin presented a proposed reapportionment of staff members for the period from Fall 2003 through Summer 2005. She explained the adjustments necessary to accurately apportion Staff Council members due to changes in vice presidential areas. Motion made
and approved to accept the reapportionment report. Ms. Martin reported the nominating ballots had been sent and the elections process is on schedule. Changes to membership and vice presidential areas will be sent to the President for approval.

Employee Benefits/Compensation Committee

Pat Harborth reported the Committee had requested a list of employee perks from Human Resources. The only response was that EZ’s offers a discount to UTSA employees. Staff Council members noted other businesses that offer perks: LaQuinta, Scholtisky’s, Barnes & Noble, Borders, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, AT&T, and Dell Computer.

The Committee will update the list of fees exempted under the Employee Educational Benefit Program and recommend changes to update the application form appropriately.

The Committee continued to check on the differences between retirement systems. Ms. Reynolds noted the System Employees Advisory Council had recently determined the benefits offered by Teachers’ Retirement System were better than the State of Texas system. The Staff Council decided no further investigation was necessary.

VI. Old Business

Recommendation of a roadrunner sculpture for the new Academic Building – tabled until the next meeting.

Dan Kiley reported he received six suggestions for the new road under construction: Rowdy, Ricardo Romo, Samuel Cochran, Arleigh Templeton, Coach Nevil Shed, and Regency. Suggestions will be approved through the President and submitted to the UT System Board of Regents for final selection.

New Business

Summer Meeting Schedule – Ms. Reynolds noted the August meeting is scheduled right after the beginning of fall classes. She recommended the Council cancel the July meeting and reschedule the August meeting to August 14th. This would be a Welcome and Farewell meeting with both incoming and outgoing members attending. Both President Romo and Vice President Larson will be able to attend lunch on that day and speak to the Council. The meeting at the Downtown Campus would continue through the afternoon and provide an orientation for the new members. Brenda Stevens made a motion to adjust the schedule for the remainder of the year as recommended. Kathi Calucci seconded. Motion approved.

2003–2004 Holiday Schedule – Ms. Reynolds distributed a memorandum from the Vice President for Administration requesting input from the Staff Council on the proposed Holiday Schedule for the next academic year.

C. Update on Recreation Facility Fees – Suzy Gray, Bob Miller
Ms. Gray announced a new fee structure for the Recreation Center was established to allow more faculty and staff to participate in the Center’s activities. The fees were set as low as possible but funding for utilities and physical plant costs are no longer being paid by Business Affairs so the Recreation Center must become more self-sustaining.

Employees Annual Salary
Below $20,000 $10.00
$20,000 - $25,000 $20.00
$25,000 and higher $26.00

Student Recreation Center Fee $54.00

Glenda Norton asked if there were plans to open membership to spouses and family. Ms. Gray responded that is not possible since the Center is already well below the space standard for the number of students. There are plans to add more space, which should help. Family memberships for the summer may be available next year. There are no plans at this time to add a higher rate to the employee rate structure. Current hours are Monday–Thursday, 6 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday 6 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 12 noon-6 p.m. These hours will be adjusted in the Fall.

Ms. Gray and Mr. Miller invited Council members to take a tour of the facilities. They noted that the Center is very busy during lunch and from late afternoon to early evening; it is not as crowded in the early morning time period. Parking is available on Lots A&B south. Mr. Miller said to check the Web site for information on fitness classes, fitness assessments, computer programs, and trainers. Alka Bhavsar asked if there are plans for a facility on the Downtown Campus or the Institute of Texan Cultures. Ms. Gray responded there is no suitable location at the Downtown Campus at this time and no students at ITC who could use a facility.

Human Resources Issues Relating to Retirement and Insurance – Linda Postel

Ms. Postel presented information related to insurance and benefits changes that will become effective September 1, 2003 (copy of presentation attached to and made a part of the minutes).

Ms. Norton asked if it would be necessary to reach the rule of 80 in order to retire? Ms. Postel responded employees can retire without the rule of 80 but would not receive insurance benefits.

The annual enrollment period for 2003 is July 7–July 31; workshop dates to be announced within the next week. UTSA administration is in the process of making decisions on the benefit packages, such as the continuance of salary supplements for staff with family coverage. Further announcement are expected soon.

VIII. Next Meeting – August 14, 2003, 12:00 noon, UTSA Downtown Campus, DB 1.124.
IX. Meeting adjourned.